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TRENDS

ASSOCIATION
OF AMERICAN
RAILROADS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, July 6, 1984 -- Freight traffic on major U.S. railroads during the week ended June 30 totaled an estimated 18.3 billion ton-miles, 15.9 percent above the corresponding week a year ago, the Association of American Railroads reported today. Both years marked the first week of the annual coal miners' holiday.

Cumulative volume for the first 26 weeks of 1984 was an estimated 463.0 billion ton-miles, 15.8 percent above the comparable period of last year.

Carloadings in the week ended June 30 totaled 400,570, up 14.9 percent from last year, but 2.2 percent lower than the preceding week of this year. Compared with last year, loadings were up 31.8 percent in the East, 15.5 percent in the South and 6.2 percent in the West.

Compared with the corresponding week of 1983, 13 of the 21 commodity groups showed increases. Coal loadings were up 35,795 cars (46.7 percent), largely due to continued stockpiling by utilities in anticipation of a possible coal strike later in the year. Twelve of the 21 groups increased from the preceding week of this year.

Piggyback

The AAR also reported that piggyback freight traffic on major railroads for the week ended June 23 totaled 52,104 cars, up 10.9 percent from the corresponding week of 1983, and 87,578 trailers and/or containers, 6.7 percent higher than last year.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first 25 weeks of the year was 1,260,496 cars, 17.3 percent higher than last year, and 2,174,492 trailers and/or containers, up 17.3 percent.

(more)

Following are carloadings of major railroads, by commodity groups, for the week ended 6/30/84:

	Loadings in Week ended June 30, 1984		Change from Corresponding Week 1983			Change from Preceding Week	
	Cars		Cars	Percent		Cars	Percent
Grain	27,225	I	3,332	13.9	I	2,212	8.1
Other farm products	3,763	D	590	13.6	D	94	2.5
Metallic ores	18,029	D	4,057	18.4	D	2,214	12.3
Coal	112,418	I	35,795	46.7	D	13,562	12.1
Crushed stone, gravel and sand	13,586	I	2,789	25.8	I	955	7.0
Nonmetallic minerals	12,414	I	969	8.5	I	591	4.8
Grain mill products	10,108	D	1,071	9.6	D	188	1.9
Food and kindred products	11,257	D	225	2.0	I	55	0.5
Primary forest products	14,044	I	834	6.3	D	86	0.6
Lumber and wood products except furniture	7,815	D	218	2.7	I	386	4.9
Pulp, paper and allied products	15,516	I	308	2.0	I	320	2.1
Chemicals and allied products	24,014	I	843	3.6	I	656	2.7
Petroleum products	4,842	I	32	0.7	D	106	2.2
Stone, clay and glass products	11,941	I	1,405	13.3	I	419	3.5
Coke	5,402	D	288	5.1	I	41	0.8
Metals and products	10,557	I	1,569	17.5	I	665	6.3
Motor vehicles and equipment	19,024	I	2,025	11.9	D	1,983	10.4
Waste and scrap materials	9,655	I	1,963	25.5	D	505	5.2
Forwarder and shipper association traffic	7,805	D	879	10.1	I	622	8.0
All other carloads	60,938	I	7,514	14.1	I	2,774	4.6
LCL traffic	217	D	64	22.8	D	4	1.8
Total Cars Loaded	400,570	I	51,986	14.9	D	9,046	2.2
Corresponding week of 1983	348,584						

	1984	1983	% Change
Total Cars Loaded (26 weeks)	10,284,966	9,157,045	I 12.3
Estimated revenue ton-miles (in billions):			
25 weeks ended June 23	444.8	384.2	I 15.8
Week ended June 30	18.3	15.8	I 15.9
26 weeks cumulative	463.0	400.0	I 15.8

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